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The Joint Policy Committee of the Societies of Epidemiology has issued a statement calling for a complete ban on the mining, export and use of asbestos. More than one hundred scientific, epidemiology and public health organizations have endorsed the statement.

Unfortunately, despite the overwhelming knowledge in the medical and scientific community of the deadly nature of asbestos fibers, a substantial amount of asbestos is still mined in countries including Canada, Russia and Brazil, and sold to countries mainly in the Third World. Corporate profits are still high for the asbestos industry, and the money made by the industry has allowed for lobbying of governments to prevent the total ban of asbestos, despite the rise of diseases like malignant mesothelioma in countries still using asbestos.

Read the **joint policy statement**.